

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-24 (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method of placing data in a .Zip file format data container, said method including:

receiving a data file at an application;

encrypting said data file to form encrypted data using said application, wherein said encrypting includes encrypting said data file using symmetric encryption having a key length of at least 128 bits; and

placing said encrypted data in a data container using said application, wherein said data container is constructed in accordance with a .Zip file format

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 further including:

compressing said data file before encrypting said data file.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein said compressing employs a Lempel-Ziv (LZ)- type data compression algorithm.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein said compressing employs a Deflate- type data compression algorithm.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein said compressing employs a Burrows-Wheeler Transform (BWT)- type data compression algorithm.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein said data file has not been previously compressed.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein said key length is at least 192 bits.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein said key length is at least 256 bits.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 further including:
generating symmetric key data during said encrypting of said data file.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 further including:
placing said symmetric key data in said data container.

35. (Currently Amended) A .Zip file format data container stored on a computer-readable medium, said data container including:

 an encrypted data file,

 wherein said encrypted data file has been encrypted by an application using symmetric encryption having a key length of at least 128 bits,

 wherein said data container is constructed by said application in accordance with a .Zip file format.

36. (Previously Presented) The .Zip file format data container of claim 35 wherein said encrypted data has been compressed before encryption.

37. (Previously Presented) The .Zip file format data container of claim 36 wherein said encrypted data has been compressed before encryption using a Lempel-Ziv (LZ)-type data compression algorithm.

38. (Previously Presented) The .Zip file format data container of claim 36 wherein said encrypted data has been compressed before encryption using a Deflate-type data compression algorithm.

39. (Previously Presented) The .Zip file format data container of claim 36 wherein said encrypted data has been compressed before encryption using a Burrows-Wheeler Transform (BWT)-type data compression algorithm.

40. (Previously Presented) The .Zip file format data container of claim 35 wherein said encrypted data has not been compressed before encryption.

41. (Previously Presented) The .Zip file format data container of claim 35 wherein said key length is at least 192 bits.

42. (Previously Presented) The .Zip file format data container of claim 35 wherein said key length is at least 256 bits.

43. (Previously Presented) The .Zip file format data container of claim 35 further including:

symmetric key data,

wherein said symmetric key data is generated during said encrypting of said encrypted data.

44. (Currently Amended) A method of placing data in a data container, said method including:

receiving a data file at an application;

encrypting said data file to form encrypted data using said application, wherein said encrypting includes encrypting said data file using symmetric encryption having a key length of at least 128 bits; and

placing said encrypted data in a data container using said application, wherein said data container is designed for containing compressed files.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 further including:

compressing said data file before encrypting said data file.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 wherein said compressing

employs a Lempel-Ziv (LZ)- type data compression algorithm.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 wherein said compressing

employs a Deflate- type data compression algorithm.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 wherein said compressing

employs a Burrows-Wheeler Transform (BWT)- type data compression algorithm.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 wherein said data file has

not been previously compressed.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 wherein said key length is at least 192 bits.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 wherein said key length is at least 256 bits.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 further including:
generating symmetric key data during said encrypting of said data file.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52 further including:
placing said symmetric key data in said data container.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 wherein said data container is constructed in accordance with a .Zip file format.

55. (Currently Amended) A data container stored on a computer-readable medium, said data container including:

an encrypted data file,

wherein said encrypted data file has been encrypted by an application using symmetric encryption having a key length of at least 128 bits,

wherein said data container is designed by said application for containing compressed files.

56. (Previously Presented) The data container of claim 55 wherein said encrypted data has been compressed before encryption.

57. (Previously Presented) The data container of claim 56 wherein said encrypted data has been compressed before encryption using a Lempel-Ziv (LZ)-type data compression algorithm.

58. (Previously Presented) The data container of claim 56 wherein said encrypted data has been compressed before encryption using a Deflate-type data compression algorithm.

59. (Previously Presented) The data container of claim 56 wherein said encrypted data has been compressed before encryption using a Burrows-Wheeler Transform (BWT)-type data compression algorithm.

60. (Previously Presented) The data container of claim 55 wherein said encrypted data has not been compressed before encryption.

61. (Previously Presented) The data container of claim 55 wherein said key length is at least 192 bits.

62. (Previously Presented) The data container of claim 55 wherein said key length is at least 256 bits.

63. (Previously Presented) The data container of claim 55 further including:
symmetric key data,
wherein said symmetric key data is generated during said encrypting of said encrypted data.

64. (Previously Presented) The data container of claim 55 wherein said data container is constructed in accordance with a .Zip file format.